

REMARKS

We have amended claims 1, 2, 4, 5, and 11.

Prior Art Rejections

Independent Claim 1

Claims 1-6 were rejected as being anticipated by Minamino et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,657,929 hereinafter Minamino). Applicant traverses this rejection.

We submit that Minamino does not disclose a detection circuit, connected to the PLL circuit, for monitoring the wobble signal, detecting the predetermined period of the wobble signal that includes the address information, and holding the frequency of the oscillation signal of the PLL circuit in accordance with the detection, as recited in amended claim 1.

Rather, Minamino discloses a DVD-RAM recording apparatus for masking the portion corresponding to the ID section on a recording track to generate a wobble digitized signal and comparing the wobble digitized signal with the N-divided VCO clock signal to generate a wobble PLL clock signal F (see column 8, lines 36-57). Minamino also discloses detecting a failure of the masked wobble digitized signal using the wobble failure detection circuit 17 to determine whether or not recording is continued (see column 13, line 59 to column 14, line 12). However, Minamino does not detect a predetermined period of a wobble signal that includes address information and holds the frequency of an oscillation signal of a PLL circuit in accordance with the detection. Accordingly, we believe that the invention recited in claim 1 distinguishes over Minamino.

Independent Claim 11

The Examiner also rejected claims 11 and 12 as being anticipated by Minamino. However, Minamino does not disclose a monitor, connected to the PLL circuit, for monitoring the wobble signal, wherein the monitor generates a first hold signal that holds the frequency of the oscillation signal of the PLL circuit during a first period between a first timing and a second timing, at which the cycle of the wobble signal changes, and a second hold signal that holds the

frequency of the oscillation signal of the PLL circuit during a second period, which is longer than the first period of the first hold signal measured from the first timing, as recited in amended claim 11.

As discussed above, Minamino discloses a DVD-RAM recording apparatus for masking the portion corresponding to the ID section on a recording track to generate a wobble digitized signal and comparing the wobble digitized signal with the N-divided VCO clock signal to generate a wobble PLL clock signal F (see column 8, lines 36-57). Minamino also discloses detecting a failure of the masked wobble digitized signal using the wobble failure detection circuit 17 to determine whether or not recording is continued (see column 13, line 59 to column 14, line 12). Accordingly, we believe that the invention recited in claim 11 distinguishes over Minamino.

Dependent Claims 7-10 and 13

The Examiner also rejected claims 7-10 and 13 as being unpatentable over Minamino in view of Katoh (U.S. Patent No. 6,088,311). Katoh was cited as disclosing a charge pump connected to a phase comparator. However, Katoh does not disclose that which was found to be missing in Minamino. Therefore, because claims 7-10 depend from claim 1 and claim 13 depends from claim 13, these dependent claims are patentable for at least the same reasons that independent claims 1 and 11 are patentable.

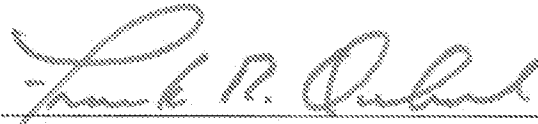
Applicant : Hideki Hirayama et al.
Serial No. : 10/781,330
Filed : February 18, 2004
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Attorney's Docket No.: 10449-
079001 / P1S2003324US

Please apply any credits or additional charges to deposit account 06-1050, referencing
10449-079001.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 6, 2007



Frank R. Occhiuti
Reg. No. 35,306

Fish & Richardson P.C.
225 Franklin Street
Boston, MA 02110
Telephone: (617) 542-5070
Facsimile: (617) 542-8906